

Exploring Montréal's Informal Settlement Networks for Maghrebi Newcomers

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The study investigates the roles of informal organizations in settlement of Maghrebi (Arab speaking North African) migrants in Montréal, a home to the largest Maghrebi population in Canada. Interviewing representatives from seven informal organizations, the study examines how grassroots, community-based, and faith-based groups that are not funded by the government support the social and economic integration of Maghrebi newcomers. The representatives of the informal organizations emphasize the importance of recognizing the cultural backgrounds and specific needs of racialized and vulnerable migrants. These ethnic and faith-based organizations provide a safe and culturally sensitive space where Maghrebi migrants feel included and accepted and share their settlement challenges without any fear of prejudice or judgement.